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Attorney Docket No. 740819-610

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:)	
Michikazu MATSUMOTO et al.)	Group Art Unit: 2826
Application No. 09/922,804)	Examiner: Fazli Erdem
Filed: August 7, 2001)	Confirmation No. 8887
For: ELECTRODE STRUCTURE AND)	
METHOD FOR FABRICATING THE)	
SAME)	

AMENDMENT

Mail Stop Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450

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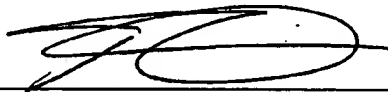
Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed June 10, 2004, please consider the amendments and remarks in connection with the above-identified application as follows.

and a metal film with a high melting point having an equal pattern size. Dependent claims 12 and 14 are directed to the method wherein the ratio of nitrogen (ratio of N/Ti) included in the barrier metal layer is approximately 0.7. In Hsu et al., since the ratio of the Ti rich TiN layer 24a is $1.1 \leq \text{Ti/N} \leq 1.2$, or in other words $0.83 \leq \text{N/Ti} \leq 0.91$, Hsu et al. fails to disclose the present invention of dependent claims 12 and 14. Thus it is respectfully requested that newly added claims 11-14 are allowable over the prior art of record for these reasons and at least in that they depend from newly amended independent claims 6 and 10.

In view of the foregoing, it is submitted that the present application is in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is respectfully requested. However, if the Examiner deems that any issue remains after considering this response, he is invited to call the undersigned to expedite the prosecution and work out any such issue by telephone.

Respectfully submitted,



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